

SB0052



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB0052

Introduced 1/20/2023, by Sen. Laura Fine

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 490/77 new

Amends the State Commemorative Dates Act. Provides that the first full week of May is designated as Compost Awareness Week to be observed throughout the State as a week to recognize the importance of composting and the use of compost in growing healthier food, supporting healthier soils, creating a more sustainable world, and to promote all relevant activities connected to the annual theme of International Compost Awareness Week.

LRB103 05137 DTM 50151 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Findings. The General Assembly finds and
5 declares the following:

6 (1) Composting is an effective form of waste
7 reduction, reuse, and recycling, and since organic
8 materials make up approximately 30% of the material going
9 into landfills, composting is becoming one of the primary
10 methods communities use to reach waste diversion goals and
11 create sustainable communities.

12 (2) Organic residual materials, including yard
13 trimmings, vegetable cuttings, biosolids, food scraps,
14 manures, and hay shavings, have been composted and
15 converted into a beneficial product known as compost.

16 (3) Returning organic resources, remanufactured into
17 compost, to the soil reduces water consumption by over 30%
18 for all soil types, conserves water during extreme drought
19 or flooding conditions, decreases dependence on chemical
20 fertilizers and pesticides, and decreases erosion and
21 nonpoint source pollution.

22 (4) Communities, through their local governments,
23 highway departments, soil conservation services, and
24 public works professionals, can have positive impacts on

1 clean water, soil, climate change, and landfill diversion
2 by using compost for public works projects.

3 (5) Composting creates green jobs and infrastructure
4 for cities and states that implement composting programs.

5 (6) International Compost Awareness Week is a
6 multimedia publicity and educational initiative designed
7 to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use
8 and is supported by compost industry organizations from
9 around the world.

10 (7) The many benefits of composting should be
11 recognized and promoted throughout the State of Illinois
12 on annual basis.

13 Section 5. The State Commemorative Dates Act is amended by
14 adding Section 77 as follows:

15 (5 ILCS 490/77 new)

16 Sec. 77. Compost Awareness Week. The first full week of
17 May is designated as Compost Awareness Week to be observed
18 throughout the State as a week to recognize the importance of
19 composting and the use of compost in growing healthier food,
20 supporting healthier soils, creating a more sustainable world,
21 and to promote all relevant activities connected to the annual
22 theme of International Compost Awareness Week.